

## TVS Program Changes in 2011 and 2012

### New Information

New law requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to implement policy and procedural changes to the Traffic Violator School (TVS) program that will be phased in during the next two years 2011-2012. The new TVS program requirement changes are pending approval of regulations.

### Overview of Changes

This memo is for informational purposes only; no action is required at this time. TVS program participants will be notified when the regulations are approved and as each new requirement takes effect. The pending changes, requirements, and estimated implementation dates are as follows:

#### January 1, 2011

- The TVS operator application requirement of 500 hours of instruction experience will be replaced by evidence of successful completion of an approved TVS operator educational program.

#### July 1, 2011

- TVS dismissals will become a TVS conviction. The courts will notify DMV of the conviction and indicate if the driver completed a TVS program. DMV will mask the conviction on the driving record history. If the driver is **not** eligible to attend a TVS program, the conviction will appear on the driving record.

#### September 1, 2011

- TVS owner license endorsement(s) may include operator and/or instructor authorizations at no additional fee. The applicant is required to complete all requirements for the operator or instructor endorsement(s).
- Establish in regulations a two-part fee process to cover DMV costs to administer TVS program.
  1. Application fee, and
  2. Administrative program monitoring fee, collected by the court (for DMV).
- Violators who are referred to a TVS, on or after September 1, 2011, will not be issued a fee-paid DMV certificate of completion. DMV will provide no-fee certificates of completion to use until the web-based system is operational. DMV will provide instructions for requesting a refund for certificates not used. Instructions for requesting a refund for unused certificates of completion will be provided at that time.

**Overview of Changes, *continued***

DMV will have specific oversight authority over the TVS program, but existing Court Assistance Programs (CAP) may continue program monitoring if under contract, during the transition from court approved to licensed programs.

**NOTE:** Court approved programs are required to submit an application for licensure between September 1, 2011, and March 1, 2012, to remain in operation.

- Bond requirements will remain \$2,000 for classroom, and increase to \$15,000 for home study/online courses.
- DMV will be required to establish a randomized web-based list of TVS program providers for the courts and the public. This will facilitate locating specific services, such as: classroom instruction in foreign languages, home study, and online courses.
- The distribution of a hard copy TVS list to the courts will be eliminated and will allow the courts to download the list from the Internet for participants.
- DMV will establish in regulations the curriculum and standards for conducting classroom, home study, and online courses.

**April 1, 2012**

- DMV will be required to establish a web-based tracking system for TVS convictions. TVS will update the database for drivers who complete a TVS program. The completion data will be transmitted directly to the appropriate court. Hard copy certificates will be eliminated once the database is operational.

You can access the bill language at: [www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/09-10/bill/asm/ab\\_2451-2500/ab\\_2499\\_bill\\_20100930\\_chaptered.pdf](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/09-10/bill/asm/ab_2451-2500/ab_2499_bill_20100930_chaptered.pdf)

**Background**

On September 30, 2010, new legislation was signed into law. The law requires major changes to the TVS program, including curriculum, operator/instructor education, requirements, and fees. The law expands DMV's regulatory authority from classroom only to include home study and online courses.

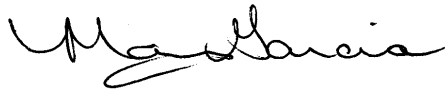
**Distribution**

Notification that this memo is available online at [dmv.ca.gov/pubs/olin/olin.htm](http://dmv.ca.gov/pubs/olin/olin.htm) was made via California DMV's Automated E-mail Alert System in December 2010 to the following:

- Traffic Violator Schools

**Contact**

If you any questions regarding this memo, contact at Commercial Licensing Policy at (916) 657-6550.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Garcia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mary" and last name "Garcia" clearly distinguishable.

MARY GARCIA, Chief  
Occupational Licensing